GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1027
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
NATURAL CALAMITIES
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the loss of life, property and crops suffered due to the recent floods, heavy rains and cyclone in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise; L,S.U.S,O.NO, 1027 FOR 29.11.2005

(c) the amount of assistance sought by various States for relief and rehabilitation;

(d) whether Central teams have visited the affected States;

(e) if so, the details of the reports submitted by each such teams; and

(f) the details of the assistance demanded by the affected States and assistance provided so far by the Union Government on the basis of report of such teams, State-wise?

Answer

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (b); Twenty five States and One UT have reported damage due to heavy rains, floods and cyclonic depression during the year 2005, in varying degrees. The provisional information received from these StatesAJnion Territory(UT) Governments regarding loss of life, damage due to property and crops are given at Annexure-I.

(c) to (f); As per the existing Scheme of Financing Relief Expenditure, the State Governments are the first responders to a disaster situation and are primarily responsible for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures in the areas affected by natural calamities, including floods. The distribution of relief on ground is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. For this purpose, a Calamity Relief Fund has been constituted for each State corpus of which is contributed by the Government of India and the State Governments in the ratio of 3:1. A State-level Committee headed by the Chief Secretary is empowered to operate CRF in accordance with the approved items and norms of assistance from CRF/NCCF.

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In case the calamity is of a severe nature additional assistance is also provided to the States out of the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), after following the laid-down procedure.

The Government of India, during the first spell of heavy rains,floods and cyclonic depression in the year 2005, had received Memoranda from the State Governments of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Maharashtra and Karnataka seeking financial assistance from NCCF. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams had been constituted immediately and visited all the aforesaid States for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirements of funds. The High Level Committee (HLC), in its meeting held on 5th October, 2005, considered the requests of all the aforesaid State Governments and taking into account the reports of the Central Teams, recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon and norms of assistance, approved the Central assistance, the details of which are given at Annexure-ll.

Subsequently, the Government of India has received Memoranda from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Keirala, Karnataka (September-October), Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and the TJT of Pondicherry seeking financial assistance from NCCF. Inter-Ministerial Central teams have toeen constituted for all these States/UT. Of these States/UT, the Central Teams have already visited the States of Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Kerala, Karnataka (September-October), Tamil Nadu and UT of Pondicherry, for an on the spot assessment of damage and requirements of funds. The reports of the Central Teams are processed in accordance with the laid down procedure and financial assistance is provided to the States from NCCF, if required. In the case of the UT of Pondicherry, the assistance is provided from the Union Territories Budget.

A statement showing the allocation and release of funds made from CRF as well as funds released from NCCF during the current financial year 2005-2006 in respect of flood affected States is at Annexure-lll.